

## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1343

By McCormick

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Janet Smith on her selection as the Hamilton County Middle School Teacher of the Year and the Loftis Middle School Teacher of the Year.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those outstanding teachers who have devoted their careers to providing the highest quality education for Tennessee's students; and

WHEREAS, Janet Smith is one such estimable educator, who has distinguished herself as a professional of the greatest dedication, ability, and integrity; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Smith has recently been selected as the Middle School Teacher of the Year by Hamilton County and Teacher of the Year by Loftis Middle School, honors most befitting her outstanding tenure as a teacher as it recognizes the positive influence she has had on so many young lives; and

WHEREAS, Janet Smith received her bachelor's degree from Georgia State University in 1980 and a master's degree from Tusculum College in 1996; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Smith has served with acumen and alacrity as a teacher for twenty-two exemplary years. She was a first-grade teacher at McConnell Elementary from 1985 to 1986, a sixth-grade English teacher at Ganns Middle Valley Elementary from 1986 to 1987, a second- and fourth-grade teacher at Soddy Elementary School from 1987 to 1989 and a seventh- and eighth-grade language arts teacher at Soddy Daisy Middle School from 1989 to 1996; she has been a seventh- and eighth-grade language arts teacher at Loftis Middle School since 1996; and

WHEREAS, Janet Smith gives back to her profession through her membership in various professional organizations, including the Hamilton County Education Association, the Tennessee Education Association, and the National Education Association; and

WHEREAS, distinguishing herself as an educational leader, Ms. Smith has participated in numerous educational leadership activities, including serving as a Team Leader, a

Leadership Team Member, a Beta Club Sponsor and Volunteer Coordinator, a Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Committee Chair, a University of Tennessee at Chattanooga Cooperating Teacher, a Mentor, and a member of the Hamilton County Curriculum Alignment Committee for Language Arts; and

WHEREAS, Janet Smith's excellence as an educator has been duly recognized by her receipt of many honors and awards, including the 2007 University of Tennessee at Chattanooga Outstanding Cooperating Teacher Award, the 2001 Public Education Foundation Highly Effective Teacher Award, the 1988 New Classroom Teacher of the Year Award, and the 1988 Project Star Teacher Award; she also earned inclusion in *Who's Who Among America's Teachers*; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Smith is a civic-minded individual who tirelessly works for the improvement of her community; through her works with the Beta Club, she contributes her time and many talents to the Soddy Daisy Healthcare Center, the Bethel Bible Village Fall Festival, the Tennessee River Rescue, and the Signal Center; and

WHEREAS, Janet Smith is an extremely talented and compassionate educator who works assiduously to motivate her students to reach their full potential, both as scholars and as citizens; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Smith truly serves as an inspiration to her colleagues and students alike, and her friendship and counsel are highly valued by those who are fortunate to know her; and

WHEREAS, Janet Smith epitomizes the ideal of the dedicated teacher who is wholly committed to the highest ideals of public service and quality education for all, and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Janet Smith on being chosen as Hamilton County Middle School Teacher of the Year and Loftis Middle School Teacher of the Year, commend her exceptional service to the children of Tennessee, salute her professional expertise and personal excellence, and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.